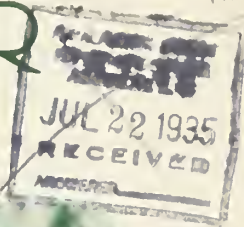


Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

THE DIXIE RANGER



-p. 103

great
for
our

photo

C O V E R

Rhododendron in the
Nantahala National Forest

THE DIXIE RANGER

Vol. 1

July 15, 1935

No. 9

U. S. FOREST SERVICE, SOUTHERN REGION, ATLANTA, GEORGIA

A GOOD JOB

Region 8 was a year old on July 1.

The business of building up a smooth-running organization in the Regional Office would ordinarily be job enough for the first year. We had the additional handicap of important emergency work. Unavoidable delays and uncertainties added to the work load.

We do not have to apologize for our first year's record. We faced a tough job and handled it well. Naturally, there are some things that we wish had turned out differently, but nothing happened to offer serious discouragement. We made splendid progress in improving the timber stands under our jurisdiction, in acquiring and placing new land under administration, in survey work in connection with the LUP program. At the same time our organization was successfully set up.

No single agency can claim credit for the increased public interest in forestry in the South and the consequent strengthening of all forestry groups, Federal, State, or otherwise; but definite advances, reflected in the passage of much-needed State legislation and increased appropriations for forestry work, have been made.

Region 8 was not responsible for this achievement, but it played its part in a highly satisfactory

manner, and made itself and its staff recognized for what the Forest Service has always stood, hardworking organization striving not only to preserve the timber without which no Nation can endure, but also to make each forest an important factor in the industrial and social life of the State in which it is located. Forestry is at the threshold of a new era in the South.

We could not have accomplished what we did in our widely scattered territory had it not been for the broad view that each of you took of your work. It has been more than just a job to which you gave a set number of hours. You have looked beyond that to the broad objectives of the leaders who direct our activities, and have given as much time and effort as was needed to make our Forest Service program a success. This spirit is fully recognized and appreciated.

Without a smooth-running organization in which every man and woman saws wood, we can not do what has been laid out for us. We have every right to be proud of the year behind us. In spite of the hard schedule we face with the inevitable irritations of delay and sudden changes, the past year has given me high hopes for our accomplishments in the year ahead of us.

--Joseph C. Kircher
Regional Forester

DO YOU GET THE MOST OUT OF BINOCULARS?

Mr. Root called the Dixie Ranger's attention to an article on how to use binoculars prepared by the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters and the Mirakel Optical Company which he thinks a good many Southern Region people will find interesting. It is too long to give it all to you but here are some high spots.

Before you adjust binoculars for the first time, do this:

1. Select a distant printed sign on which to focus, instead of tree, house or similar object which blurs more easily. You can not be in doubt the clear, sharp focusing of print.
2. Steady the glasses by resting your elbow on something stationary. Adjust according to A (below) if there is a central focusing wheel, and B if there are individual eye-cap adjustments.

A. Close your right eye, or better still, hold a card in front of that side of the binocular, and turn the central focusing wheel until you see clearly with your left eye. Then shut your left eye, and turn the right eye-cap (do not touch the central focusing wheel) until you see clearly with the right eye. Closing one eye puts muscular strain on the other eye and the closed eye takes time to recover from the "squeeze". You should now see clearly with each eye no matter how your two eyes differ. Bend the binocular at the hinge until the circles as seen by both eyes fuse into one.

The above procedure may seem a complicated and laborious method, but after the first time it is quite simple. You know the correct reading of the right eye-cap for your eyes. If this is -2, then that is where this cap should always be set for you on this particular glass. If the right eye-cap becomes moved, then you can easily set it back at -2 without even looking through the binocular. Thereafter you can adjust the glass correctly for both your eyes simply by turning the central focusing wheel. Remember, however, that print is always the ideal object on which to adjust binoculars. An adjustment "more or less correct" is not good enough. Restful vision requires perfect adjustment.

B. Binoculars With Individual Eye-Cap Adjustments. Close off the vision on the right side, look through the left side only, and turn that eye-cap until you can see clearly. Do the same on the right side and bend the hinge to fuse the two images. Take the reading of each eye-cap. If the caps become shifted, you can put them back into correct position without looking through the binocular. It pays to be very accurate the first time, thereafter adjustment is simple.

Alignment

The alignment of a binocular may be roughly checked by eye by the following method, although it often taken a good deal of practice to do this easily:

Adjust the left side of the binocular correctly for your left eye and the right side for your right eye, but do not look through both eyes at the same time. Otherwise, if the glass is out of alignment, you will immediately strain your eyes by trying to force fusion, and this eye strain will unfit you for the following test. After adjusting the binoculars for each eye, open both of them, instantly moving the binocular slowly away until it is three or four inches from your eyes. At this distance your eyes will not be able to force the fusion of the two images.

Be sure to focus the glasses on a straight horizontal line directly before you (not on a line at an angle). If the binoculars are in alignment, the image of the line as seen through the right eye piece will be a continuation of the line as seen through the left eye piece. If the binoculars are out of alignment, one of the two lines will appear higher than the other.

If you find that your eyes cannot readily perform this test, or if the results seem doubtful, it would then be advisable for you to send in your binocular to have the alignment checked properly. Much eye strain will be avoided if attention is given to this matter of alignment.

Care

Keep your glasses clean. Never use fingertips on a lens. Breathe on the lenses and wipe with soft, clean handkerchief. Bumping or jarring damages glasses sooner or later; probably it will injure the prisms.

Under no circumstances, attempt your own repair work or let anyone but a specialist do it. It is too delicate a job for amateurs.

Forest Fire Observation

Fire observers vary considerably in their methods of using binoculars. Some prefer to "spot" suspicious looking objects with their naked eyes and then examine them in more detail through their binoculars. Others, however, prefer to "sweep" the landscape slowly through their binoculars. If the magnification is low enough, the field of view will be wide enough to see sufficient country at one time to detect suspicious looking smoke.

There is one important optical problem in fire detection that has not yet adequately been solved. That is, the differentiation between smoke haze and mist haze. Experimental work has already been done with various types of tinted lenses.

Some observers find amber goggles helpful in distinguishing between smoke and mist. A little work has also been done in inserting color lenses in low power field glasses, but nothing very conclusive has yet been determined. There is still room here for experimental work by some scientifically minded fire observer.

- - - - -

FORESTRY LEGISLATION ADVANCES IN FLORIDA

Florida made sweeping progress in Forestry legislation during the 1935 Legislature recently adjourned, according to Mr. Harry Lee Baker, State Forester. At President Roosevelt's suggestion Governor Sholtz of Florida appointed a committee on conservation. All conservation groups joined in support of the committee's recommendations with the result that new forestry laws provide for the following:

1. County-wide fire control on majority vote of county electors.
2. Permits to burn will be required before anyone is permitted to burn in a protection district.
3. Requires employees of State and County highway organizations to fight all fires within 200 feet of highways.
4. Provides for the teaching of nature studies in two grades in grade schools, and for the teaching of conservation of natural resources in State educational institutions, including high schools throughout the State.
5. Provides \$7500 for the teaching of forestry at the University of Florida.
6. Authorizes the Florida Board of Forestry to establish a Park Service.
7. Appropriates \$50,000 a year for the establishment of a system of State Forests and Parks.
8. Provides a lien against a property on which the owner fails to pay the fire control assessment (on fire protection units where owners enter into voluntary agreements with State to pay certain fixed sums for their share).

--W. R. Hine
States Relations

- - - - -

ALABAMA CCC ENROLLEE WINS
CARNEGIE AWARD FOR BRAVERY

Henry N. Bradfield, former CCC enrollee in Camp F-4, Alabama, has been awarded a bronze medal and \$1,000 for the purchase of a home or some other worthwhile use by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission.

According to Guy D. McKinney, Assistant to ECW Director Techner, only one other enrollee has received this distinction.

Mr. Bradfield's act of bravery was performed on November 19, 1933, when a fire broke out in his camp at Moulton, Alabama. Risking his life, he crawled forty feet through dense smoke and fire to save Enrollee B. D. Rivers who was overcome by smoke and on the verge of losing his life. Enrollee Bradfield collapsed as soon as he had dragged his comrade to safety but prompt attention from other members of his company revived him.

Bradfield, whose home is in Tarrant City, Alabama, joined the CCC on April 26, 1933, and was honorably discharged on June 26, 1934.

R. V. Michaux, formerly of NC F-11 and now forestry foreman at NC NP-19, has been commended by the Commanding General of the Fourth Corps Area for prompt and aggressive action in saving the remaining camp buildings when the mess hall at the Ravensford CCC camp was destroyed by fire on June 8, 1935.

"Because of the orderly manner in which Mr. Michaux went about the work of safeguarding the other buildings," the Army letter of commendation read, "the fire was confined to the mess hall which was

totally destroyed. There is every reason to conclude that Mr. Michaux's prompt and aggressive action contributed materially to the effective protection that was given the remaining buildings of the camp."

CHEROKEE NEWS

Supervisor Broadbent and Ranger Woody have consummated another of their remarkable "swaps". A recent telephone call from the Pisgah resulted in hasty preparations at the Blue Ridge District Office for a mysterious trek to North Carolina. The high quality of Ranger Woody's bartering is now evidenced by a pair of black bear cubs in the old concrete fish pond behind the Ranger Station at Woody's Gap. Supervisor Broadbent is to receive a setting of wild turkey eggs from the Blue Ridge District as complete payment for the cubs. Since Ranger Woody is definitely in the market for more bear cubs, the forces assembled for seizure of prospective turkey broods are formidable, and include, it is said, the Georgia Game and Fish Commission. The cubs are in splendid condition and will be turned loose in the Blue Ridge Game Refuge when old enough to shift for themselves. It is hoped that this fine game animal may be successfully propagated in the refuge, and that gratifying losses in the heavy wild hog population will follow. (?)

Public Relations

The Decatur, Alabama, Chamber of Commerce recently made a survey of sources of paper pulp material within a 60-mile radius of the city.

Ranger Henneberger furnished the desired information covering the Alabama National Forest. Large northern paper mills, attracted by abundant labor, raw material, water and electric power, are focusing their attention on this locality. The establishment of a mill at or near Decatur would afford an excellent opportunity to practice intensive utilization on the Alabama.

Private Relations

It is not uncommon for hunters to make inquiries concerning dogs prior to hunting season, nor is it unusual for victims of thievery to seek assistance in apprehending the guilty. The request recently made of Ranger Squires was, however, a bit extraordinary.

It appears that one of the Ranger's neighbors on the Tellico District, living just outside the boundary, went up a hollow one morning to run off another "batch". Upon arriving at his place of business, he found that nocturnal visitors had lifted his entire manufacturing unit. Having no clues or suspicious, the victim allowed his consternation to outweigh his better judgment, and made straight for the Ranger's Office.

Upon arriving at the Station, he approached the fire truck driver, and, with considerable tact and evasiveness, placed an emergency requisition for the services of the bloodhound used by Ranger Squires on trespass cases. Being hopelessly lost when asked for pertinent details, the unfortunate distiller was denied the use of the dog. Noticeably offended, he departed without further suit, doubtlessly disgusted with "this Government red-tape".

--Karl R. Mayer,
Acting Asst. Forester.

DEDICATE FOREST SERVICE TOTEM POLE

Something new in totem poles was dedicated on July 4 at CCC Camp G-F-3 on the Cherokee National Forest. It was described by its originator, C. A. Eastman, as a Forest Service totem pole.

The forest pole, carved from a 50-foot yellow poplar pole, is fashioned after the original totem poles of the early Indians. Like all totem poles, it tells a story simply, yet eloquently, in colorful woodcarvings. The essential tools of the forest worker, including the axe, pick, and shovel are pictured at the bottom of the pole. Directly above this carving is the Forest Service shield. Emerging from the shield there is a trail bordered on each side with various likenesses of birds, plants and animals. Along the way may be seen a tractor and other machines used in forest work. The trail leads to a picturization of many of the branches of the U. S. Army which play an important part in the work of the CCC camps. The symbols of the Medical Corps, the Infantry, and the Artillery are included. A large cross, haloed with rays, represents the religious phase of the work. The American eagle dominates this section of the pole and is placed in a superior position to the large native black bear which is about to walk over a fallen log. There is a likeness of the President at this point and beyond him a life-size figure of a Forest Ranger. No detail has been spared and the Ranger stands on high, Stetson hat included.

The Forest Service totem pole is the result of months of labor on the part of C. A. Eastman, commonly known as the "Woodcarver of Sautee", who is enrolled at Georgia F-3 as a local experienced man and who has developed several fine wood-carvers from the many interested students in his wood-carving classes.

Mr. Eastman's work is well known throughout Georgia. There stands, in the picturesque Nacoochee Valley, his fine totem pole dedicated to the early Indians of the Valley. Another pole at Brenau College at Gainesville, Georgia bears testimony of his work. Mr. Eastman spent his early life with the Indians of the Northwest. He tells of the Indian chief who took him, along with several Indian children, to a certain mountain in Montana where, by moonlight, he watched the bears play with their shadows while the Indians performed their sacred Bear Dance. As a result of these early experiences, Mr. Eastman became, and is at present imbued, with the desire to properly portray, through the medium of woodcarving, the works of God and nature.

--W. W. Bergoffen
Cherokee Nat'l Forest

- - - - -

PLANTING ON THE OUACHITA

The 1935 planting projects on the Ouachita included the fencing and planting of 140 acres in six different plantations. Planting was done by CCC men and the first day was spent principally in training these men to properly plant the trees. Emphasis was placed on the fact that the labor cost involved in planting was perhaps the least important item and that quality work was expected in preference to quantity in the operation. Close supervision was exercised throughout the planting period. At least ten trees per planter were dug up each morning and the same number in the afternoon. Any evidence of poor work was called to his attention and he was cautioned not to make the same

mistakes again. Great improvement was shown in the quality of work done and the number of trees planted per man hour after the first day of training.

One-O root pruned shortleaf pine seedlings produced at the Ozark Nursery were used. The stock was in excellent condition, having been carefully handled and packed at the nursery. Culling had also been very well done at the nursery. Very few plants had to be thrown out.

Weather conditions were ideal. The planting was done immediately after a four or five days' rain, and right after the planting was completed we had a more prolonged rainy period. Under such conditions we can reasonably expect a good survival, but summer droughts are another thing to worry about.

An experimental plantation was established on the forest in January, 1935, the object of the experiment being to find the planting method best adapted to local conditions; also to check the success of winter planting against spring planting. It is hoped that some useful information will be derived from their experiment.

--Z. B. Byrd,
Ouachita

- - - - -

OZARK TIMBER TRANSACTION PROFITABLE TO ALL CONCERNED

On Wednesday, May 8, 1935, 3140 board feet of black oak timber was marked for a small cross-tie operation. The trees were 10" to 16" D.B.H., occupying an intermediate position in a virgin shortleaf stand on a good site. The trees

were fairly sound but knotty, and suitable only for cross-ties and car stock. Although the stumpage was only \$2.00 per M board feet, we felt more than compensated because of the utilization to a 10" top, regardless of limbs, and because the cutting liberated a good stand of pine saplings from 5' to 15' high.

By Friday, May 10, the trees had been cut and hauled to Hector, Arkansas, just south of the Ozark National Forest. On that day, the local mill, operated by A. M. Reed, sawed out 77 cross-ties. The next day these ties were in the Missouri Pacific Railroad yards at Russellville, Arkansas, and Mr. Reed was in receipt of \$31.00 to show for his own salary as a sawyer and for profit and risk. Three cutters felled and bucked the trees for \$1.00 per M board feet. A hauler, using his own truck, received \$4.00 per M board feet for the hauling from the woods to the railroad yards. Seven mill hands, besides Mr. Reed, worked four hours at the minimum code rate of 24 cents an hour. Twelve men subsisted for twelve families two days from this little operation. Most optimistic is the operator, Mr. Reed. He is confident of sizable orders from the Missouri Pacific that will include a large enough percentage of car stock and switch ties. This should compensate for the small profit he makes on the 7x9 standards. It means full time employment for 8 mill hands, four fellers, and two haulers. The National Forest will benefit silviculturally and will receive fair stumpage for material that would otherwise be useless.

The total cost to the Forest Service of administering this sale was \$2.78, covering marking, scaling at the mill, and inspection at the

sale area by a Junior Forester. A 50,000 board feet sale can be administered at 40 cents per M board feet.

--Lee S. Settel
Ozark Nat'l Forest

- - - - -

SUBTLE SAWMILL HUMOR

Supervisor Broadbent contributed this one:

Considerable difficulty was being experienced in rolling a 16-foot chestnut log, six feet in diameter at the butt end, onto the carriage of an ordinary circular mill. The engine had been shut off and the whole mill crew had been called to help 'roll her on'. One carriage dog was broken as it rolled against the blocks.

Sawyer: "Ah wish a squirrel had got that nut."

Sawmill Owner: "Ah hope th' un ut didn't git it is dead."

- - - - -

SO YOU WENT TO THE PICNIC!

"So you went to the picnic" was what all conversations started with in the Regional Office the morning after the Fourth of July. Which gives you an idea, if you didn't know, that there was a picnic and that everybody had a good time. The Nantahala Forest personnel put it on at Camp G-F-10 on Lake Burton and invited the entire Southern Region.

Information is scarce as to how many forests were represented, but the Dixie Ranger reporter saw

the majority of the Regional Office staff there and was told that practically everyone from the Nantahala turned out. Grade-A picnickers were on the scene by 10 a.m. and enjoyed a lively program which included tennis, swimming events, a baseball game between Nothsteins Still Hunters and Dunbars Road Hogs, and a husband-calling contest. For the youngsters there were candy scrambles and peanut races. Not being a Grade-A anything, this reporter was not able to reach Lake Burton until most of the contests were over and therefore can't give you firsthand information about the winners, but there is firsthand information that the Camp enrollees deserve a big hand for the splendid lunch they served to all those who did not bring their own fried chicken and deviled eggs.

The Dixie Ranger reporter was not the only tardy arrival. Mrs. Georgiana Carter, Mrs. Bess Taggard, and Miss Mary Hamme, all of the Regional Office, packarded in about 5 p.m. The story they told was that Mary Hamme insisted on going first to Franklin because she listened to H. P. Nichols talk about the place for 26 months when they shared an office in Washington several years ago and she was determined to see it. The ladies also made the trip over the Wayah Bald to see the flame azalea, stopping at Camp N. C. F-10 for lunch which Mrs. Carter said was really a feast.

THE LOOKOUT

The Regional Office is in pretty much of a whirl these days--making allotments in connection with acquisition and regular ERA activities and formulating recommendations for the Forester with reference to FERA transient camps. These activities have kept the Regional Forester and the Associate Forester very close to their desks for the past week, and brought Supervisors Stone, Clark, Broadbent, Hadley, Bishop, Koen and Conarro to Atlanta for conferences. Supervisor Albert was also in Atlanta several days ago.

- - - - -

Mr. Stabler, formerly Assistant Regional Forester in charge of the Division of Operation, has been appointed associate forester for Region 8. His successor has not yet been named.

- - - - -

Assistant Regional Forester Shaw recently spent several days in Washington.

- - - - -

Assistant Regional Forester Evans had as a visitor last week Professor Gordon D. Mackworth, head of the Department of Forestry, University of Georgia.

- - - - -

Associate Engineer P. W. Warren left Atlanta July 8 for an inspection trip through the Sumter National Forest.

H. W. Rainey, Inspection Engineer, told the last person he saw in the Glenn Building garage on Monday, the eighth, that he was heading his car toward Arkansas.

Assistant Regional Forester Kramer's family are installed at Lake Rabun, Nantahala National Forest, for the summer.

- - - - -

Mr. W. A. Ritchie, of the Atlanta Constitution, and his wife, attended the Nantahala picnic at Lake Burton on the Fourth.

- - - - -

H. C. Cain, Division of Engineering, has had a vacation.

- - - - -

Miss Jewell King, Division of States Relations, has returned from a vacation in Asheville, North Carolina.

- - - - -

Mr. David L. Dorward, States Relations, and his family are now holidaying in Asheville.

- - - - -

H. P. Nichols, Executive Assistant, Florida Forests, accompanied Supervisor Albert on his recent visit to the Regional Office.

- - - - -

Mr. P. J. Paxton, Senior land appraiser, and Mrs. Paxton have returned to Atlanta from a trip to Indiana.

- - - - -

Mrs. Katherine G. Corley, Division of Operation, is visiting her family in Baltimore, Maryland. She stopped at Virginia Beach on her way North.

C. M. Fagan, Regional Auditor, has returned from Washington where he spent a week. Mrs. Fagan accompanied him on the trip.

Mrs. Catherine Tarburton, Division of Accounts, is now in Delaware.

Mrs. Lena G. Loflin, Division of Lands, has had a few days annual leave.

Eugene D. Wright, Maintenance Division, is a patient at the Veteran's Hospital. W. H. Malpasse has charge of the supply room during his absence.

Regional Fiscal Agent Marshall made an official trip to Jackson, Mississippi, recently.

Supervisor Koen reports that Superintendent C. P. Phelps of Camp

Sylamore No. 8 died in the hospital at Russellville, Arkansas, on July 2.

Mr. Phelps was one of the Ozark's best camp superintendents and a friend

of Mr. Koen's from the early days of the Forest.

The farmer gazed with heavy frown
upon his mower, broken down,
Then hastened to the nearest town
to buy repair.
He told the dealer of his woe, and
how much hay he had to mow,
But not a number did he know,
Nor seemed to care.

"The part I want," he wisely said,
"Is hollowed out and painted red,
I had the number in my head,
But I forget.
It holds the thing-um-bob in place
About an inch from that long brace
That fastens to the big main base,
And keeps it set."

"You surely know just what I mean,
It broke before on my machine,
The what-you-call-ums it's between
And just behind the thing which moves
along like that
About as big as this old hat
Would be if you should mash it flat.
I think you'll find.

The dealer sighed and shook his head.
"I don't know what you mean", he said,
"We'll have to search the extra shed,
So come along.
If you would only tax your brain,
So that the number you'd retain,
Or being the old part in, 'tis plain
You'd not go wrong."

From end to end he searched the bins,
Clawed over castings, bolts and pin,
And skinned his fingers and his shins;
It made him "Cus".
But still he searched with sinking heart,
(He'd seen two customers depart)
And in the last bin found the part,
"Twas ever thus."

"That's it" the farmer creid in glee,
"I thought 'twas number thirty-three,
Now, what's the price of that - to me?
Great Jumpin' Frogs;
Not forty cents? An awful rate
For a thing that hasn't got not weight,
Oh, well, just put it on the slate
Till I sell my hogs."